

**PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION
AUTHORIZING THE LEGISLATURE TO PROVIDE
ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY BLIND.**

H. J. R. No. 26.]

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION.

House Joint Resolution proposing an amendment to Article III of the Constitution of the State of Texas by adopting a new Section to be known as Section 51-c which shall provide that the Legislature shall have the power to provide, under such limitations and restrictions as may be deemed by the Legislature expedient for assistance to the needy blind over the age of twenty-one (21) years, and for the payment of same not to exceed Fifteen Dollars (\$15) per month each, and providing for payment of such assistance or aid only to actual bona fide citizens of Texas and providing that the requirements for the length of time of actual residence in Texas shall never be less than five (5) years during the nine (9) years immediately preceding the application for such assistance and continuously for one year immediately preceding such application; and providing that the Legislature shall have the authority to accept from the Government of the United States financial aid for assistance to such blind; providing for an election on the question of adoption or rejection of such amendment and making an appropriation therefor; providing for the proclamation and publication thereof and prescribing the form of ballot.

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. That Article III of the Constitution of the State of Texas, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a Section to be known as Article 51-c which shall read as follows:

"Section 51-c. The Legislature shall have the power by General Laws to provide, under such limitations and regulations and restrictions as may by the Legislature be deemed expedient, for assistance to the needy blind over the age of twenty-one (21) years, and for the payment of same not to exceed Fifteen Dollars (\$15) per month per person; such assistance or aid to be granted only to actual bona fide citizens of Texas; provided that no habitual criminal and no habitual drunkard and no inmate of any State supported institution, while such inmate, shall be eligible for such assistance to the needy blind over the age of twenty-one (21) years; provided, further, that the requirements for the length of time of actual residence in Texas shall never be less than five (5) years during the nine (9) years immediately preceding the application for assistance to the needy blind over the age of twenty-one (21) years; and continuously for one year immediately preceding such application.

"The Legislature shall have the authority to accept from the Government of the United States such financial aid for assistance to the needy blind as that Government may offer not inconsistent with the restrictions hereinabove provided."

SEC. 2. The foregoing Constitutional Amendment shall be submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of this State at a special election to be held throughout the State of Texas on the

fourth Monday of August, 1937, at which election all voters favoring the proposed Amendment shall write or have printed on their ballots the following words:

"FOR the Amendment to the State Constitution providing for assistance to the needy blind over the age of twenty-one (21) years not to exceed Fifteen Dollars (\$15) per month per person, and providing for acceptance from the Government of the United States of America financial aid for such payment."

Those voters opposing said proposed Amendment shall write or have printed on their ballots the words:

"AGAINST the Amendment to the State Constitution providing for assistance to the needy blind over the age of twenty-one (21) years, not to exceed Fifteen Dollars (\$15) per month per person, and providing for acceptance from the Government of the United States of America financial aid for such payment."

If it appears from the returns of said election that a majority of the votes cast are in favor of said Amendment, the same shall become a part of the State Constitution.

SEC. 3. The Governor of the State of Texas shall issue the necessary proclamation for said election and shall have the same published as required by the Constitution for Amendments thereto.

SEC. 4. The sum of Nine Thousand Dollars (\$9,000), or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any funds in the Treasury of the State, not otherwise appropriated, to pay the expenses of such publication and election.

[NOTE.—H. J. R. No. 26 passed the House, April 20, 1937, by a vote of 113 yeas, 0 nays; passed the Senate, with amendments, May 5, 1937, by a vote of 28 yeas, 2 nays; House refused to concur in Senate amendments, and Conference Committee appointed; House adopted Conference Committee report, May 14, 1937, by a vote of 124 yeas, 0 nays; Senate adopted Conference Committee report, May 14, 1937, by a vote of 29 yeas, 0 nays.]

Filed in the Department of State, May 15, 1937, without the Governor's signature.